

CLAIMS

1. A process for producing a luminescent glass,
comprising the steps of adsorbing, to a porous high silica glass,
at least one metal component selected from the group consisting
5 of elements of Groups IIIA, IVA, VA, VIA, VIIA, VIII, IB, IIB and
IVB of the Periodic Table; and thereafter heating the porous
glass in a reducing atmosphere.
2. A process according to Claim 1, wherein the metal
component to be adsorbed to the porous high silica glass is at
10 least one member selected from the group consisting of elements
of the fourth period of the Periodic Table, elements of the fifth
period of the Periodic Table, and lanthanoids.
3. A process according to Claim 2, wherein the metal
component to be adsorbed to the porous high silica glass is at
15 least one member selected from the group consisting of V, Cr, Mn,
Fe, Co, Ni, Cu, Ag, Sn, Eu, Ce and Tb.
4. A process according to Claim 1, wherein the metal
component to be adsorbed to the porous high silica glass is a
rare earth element or elements.
- 20 5. A process according to Claim 1, wherein the metal
component to be adsorbed to the porous high silica glass is at
least one metal component selected from the group consisting of
elements of Groups IVA, VA, VIA, VIIA, VIII, IB, IIB and IVB.
6. A process according to Claim 1, wherein the heating
25 temperature is 900 to 1600°C.
7. A process according to Claim 1, further comprising,
before the heating step, the step of adsorbing, to the porous
glass, at least one element selected from the group consisting of
B, N, F, Al, P and S.
- 30 8. A process according to Claim 1, wherein the porous
high silica glass is obtained by causing phase separation of an
alkali borosilicate glass by heat treatment and then treating the
phase-separated glass with an acid.
9. A luminescent glass prepared by a process according
35 to any one of Claims 1 to 8.

10. A luminescent glass according to Claim 9,
comprising at least 96 wt.% of SiO_2 , 0.5 to 3 wt.% of B_2O_3 , 0.1 to
1.5 wt.% of Al_2O_3 , and 50 to 2000 ppm of at least one metal
component selected from the group consisting of elements of
5 Groups IIIA, IVA, VA, VIA, VIIA, VIII, IB, IIB and IVB of the
Periodic Table.

11. A lighting system for use in water or air,
comprising the luminescent glass according to Claim 9 and an
ultraviolet light source.

10 12. A lighting system comprising the luminescent glass
according to Claim 9 disposed in water; an ultraviolet light
source placed outside water; and an optical fiber provided so
that one end of the optical fiber connected to the ultraviolet
light source and the other end is located in the vicinity of the
15 luminescent glass.

13. A display device comprising as a luminous body a
luminescent glass according to Claim 9.